

The Truth of It

In the daily papers of Dayton, Ohio, appear statements in reference to the action of the Ohio State Conference in the case of Zed. H. Copp and the First Brethren Church of Dayton, which are so misleading that in justice to the Conference and the cause in general we find it necessary to call special attention to the action of the Conference in reference to the matter. It is by no means pleasant to refer to this matter at all, but to guard our people against false impressions it becomes a duty to do so. The Conference of Ohio at its regular session appointed a committee of five men, who were instructed to report on the work of the Board of Elders. From the Dayton papers we take the following statements in reference to the action of this committee:

The result of the action of this committee, which was adopted by Conference, restores Rev. Copp to all his rights and privileges as a minister in the Brethren church, but denies him a voice in the Conference until he recants. It also leaves the First Brethren church intact in its organization and entitled to do business as a corporation, but also refuses to give it a voice in the Conference until it parts with Rev. Copp.

Those who desire to know the real truth in the matter are referred to the minutes of the Ohio Conference published in this issue of the paper. The action of this committee does not restore Zed. H. Copp to all the rights and privileges as a minister in the Brethren church. It does the very opposite of that; he is not a member of the Conference of the churches of this state, and any local congregation receiving him places itself in the same attitude toward the Conference with himself. What then are the rights and privileges of which he boasts? The Board of Elders has declared the organization as effected by Zed. H. Copp no longer an organization of the Brethren church, and the Conference at its late session received into fellowship the delegates from the mission recognized by the Board of Elders, and rejected all other delegates from Dayton. The same paper also states that the case has been appealed to National Conference. The Board of Elders, the committee of five, as good men as the state of Ohio has, and the Ohio Conference itself, are perfectly willing that this action shall come before that body. Tho it is only proper to state here that National Conference has no jurisdiction whatever over any state Conference and could not if it would interfere with its work.

We have received numerous communications for publication in answer to the question, "Is our government Congregational or Episcopal?" the question having evidently been propounded by a party concerned in the Dayton affair. To such let us say, that for the present it is not a matter of either congregational or episcopal form of government, it is a question as to whether the Lord

in his book has given us a government that will protect churches from false teachers and save them from disruption. If a fire breaks out in the heart of a city, it is foolish to discuss the question as to the elements of fire, the sensible thing to do is to put out the fire and save the buildings and homes of the people. Call the divine government of the Lord Jesus what you will, if it does not provide protection for missions built by the charities of the churches then it must be defective, and this we are not willing to admit. We trust that we need not be called upon to make farther reference to this matter editorially or in any other way thru the paper.

Homes for the Brethren

A rare opportunity is presented at this time to Brethren who wish to secure homes at Ashland and close to the college. Parents who wish to send their children to Ashland college, can, on very easy terms, get homes of their own, and what is better have houses built just to suit them. A great improvement is being made near the college, in fact on ground joining college campus on the east. Many of our brethren will remember the grounds on which the Annual meeting of 1881 was held. This land is platted into lots by the College Hill Improvement Co., of Ashland, and houses will be constructed on them immediately. Brother J. Allen Miller, president of the College, has purchased a lot and expects to build some time during the summer. Prof. Hornburger, a former student at Ashland, has purchased a lot and expects to build also. We have already broken ground for our own, and others are negotiating for lots. The company sells these lots on 15 cents per day payments, and if desired, will construct you a house on a monthly payment same as rent. Here is an excellent opportunity for the Brethren to get homes joining the College campus and educate their children in the only school owned by the church of their choice. Monthly payments will not be any higher than an ordinary rent, and yet almost half your payment will go towards the payment of the principal, and thus reduce the principal each year. Persons desiring lots will do well to correspond with us at once so as to secure them at the price at which they are now held. A few buildings will soon enhance the value of the vacant lots and of course raise the price. Why not have a Brethren Colony here of ten or fifteen families.

Where Thousands of Papers Are Read

There is, perhaps, but a single place in this country where almost all the newspapers of the United States are read. To the Exchange Bureau of The Ladies' Home Journal practically every paper in this country comes—an aggregate of nearly 9000. It is the rule to read each one within a day after it is

received, so a large staff of trained readers is kept employed constantly. By this plan it is possible for the editors to keep in close touch with the reading public, and accurately informed as to the topics that are uppermost in the public mind in every section of the country. In this reading such selections are made as may be of special immediate interest, as well as matter for future reference and notes that may serve as memoranda or suggest articles. Moreover, everything relating to the Journal is clipped and filed. Thousands of dollars a year are spent in this work alone, but Editor Bok regards it as a very profitable investment, as invaluable information is thus supplied that could be obtained in no other way.

Personal Mention

Brother D. C. Moomaw writes encouragingly of the work in Va.

The Chicago Mission thru Brother Talley reports one accession by relation.

Brother Flora reports one accession by baptism to the Union Salem congregation, Indiana.

Brother Replogle makes an appeal to the people of the churches of Pa. in behalf of the district work.

At Flora, Indiana there have been nine accessions lately, seven by baptism, and two by relation. Reported by Sister Wingert.

It will be observed that a tract fund has been started, and Brother Bauman, our general agent makes his first report in this issue. That fund should grow into hundreds of dollars.

The Ohio Conference has reason to congratulate itself on having such an excellent secretary as Brother Miller. The minutes of the Conference prepared by him appear in this issue of the paper. They were typewritten, logically and intelligently arranged.

Brother L. S. Bauman made his first report to the house as its general agent, and it is a very encouraging report. Among other business transacted for the house he secured in less than a week and in one congregation sixteen new subscriptions. Brother Welty, the pastor greatly assisted him.

Brother Furry will take charge of the Lanark congregation and preach for that people during the months of July and August. Early in September he will be at Ashland to take charge of the work in the college to which the board of trustees has called him. The friends of the college will be pleased to learn that Brother Furry has agreed to accept this work.

The many friends of Sister Laura Slotter, Ontario, California, will be pleased to learn that she has been given charge of the public library of that place. To one who has literary tastes as Sister Slotter has, the position is one which offers special advantages. We